

HOUSE RESOLUTION 107

By Clemmons

A RESOLUTION recognizing and congratulating the Vanderbilt University women's tennis team on their capture of the 2015 Southeastern Conference championship.

WHEREAS, the members of this legislative body are honored to recognize those student-athletes who, through their athletic endeavors, bring honor and acclaim to themselves, their universities, and this State; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Vanderbilt University women's tennis team are one such group of individuals. The Commodores recently captured their first Southeastern Conference (SEC) championship title; and

WHEREAS, the Commodores entered the SEC tournament as the number four seed and ranked ninth in the country, and earned their way into the finals by defeating the third-ranked Florida Gators in a thrilling 4–1 victory; and

WHEREAS, in the final round, the Commodores faced the Georgia Bulldogs, who defeated the 'Dores 5–2 in the regular season. The two teams battled back and forth, with Vanderbilt taking an early 3–0 lead before the Bulldogs battled back with three singles matches wins to tie the competition 3–3; and

WHEREAS, when Vanderbilt senior Marie Casares rallied to beat Georgia's Caroline Brinson, the Commodores claimed their first SEC championship in the history of the program; and

WHEREAS, the Commodores were guided through this successful season and postseason by the astute leadership and dedication to excellence exhibited by head coach Geoff Macdonald. During his tenure as head coach, Mr. Macdonald has led the Commodores to three SEC championship matches and twenty-one consecutive appearances, including the

one that they are about to make following their SEC tournament championship win on Sunday, April 19, in the NCAA Tournament; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the play of Marie Casares, the Vanderbilt team benefited from the on-court excellence of Sydney Campbell, who set a new Vanderbilt record for singles matches won in a season, Frances Attick, and Astra Sharma, who garnered tournament Most Valuable Player honors; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Campbell and Courtney Colton also tallied a doubles victory in the championship match, as did Astra Sharma and Ashleigh Antal; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, perseverance, and commitment to excellence displayed by these individuals, both on and off the court, have enabled them to find success in the athletic arena, and will surely engender success in all their future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is wholly fitting that this talented team be recognized by the members of this legislative body for their accomplishments; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize and congratulate coach Geoff Macdonald and the members of the 2015 Vanderbilt University women's tennis team on their recent capture of the SEC Tournament championship title, applaud their successful season, and extend our best wishes for their continued success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.